

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group A, claim(s) 1-8, and 15, are drawn to directed to a method of providing a digital data item to a user, the user having registered on a server so that the user information has been stored in a User Information Database, an application also having been associated with a user terminal by encoding a unique identifier of the user terminal in the application; the unique identifier also having been stored in the User Information Database.

Group B, claim(s) 9-14, and 16-27, are drawn to a method of transferring a digital data item from an originator terminal to a recipient terminal where an originator application on the originator terminal requests the transfer of the digital data item, the request being transmitted to a server; a recipient application on the recipient terminal accepting the request for transfer of the digital data item, the request being transmitted from the server; deleting the digital data item from the originator terminal; and, transmitting the digital data item from the server to the recipient terminal.

The inventions listed as Groups A and B do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

With regards to claim group A, it is considered that encoding a unique identifier of the user terminal in the application comprises a first "special technical feature".

With regards to claim group B, the deleting of the digital data item from the originator terminal is considered to comprise a second separate "special technical feature".

A telephone call was made to John Nemzai on 9/22/08 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement may be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To preserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL R. VAUGHAN whose telephone number is (571)270-7316. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, 7:30am - 5:00pm, EST.

Art Unit: 2131

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on 571-272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MRV

A.U. 2431

/Syed Zia/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2431